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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

IGUCHI, Yuji et al.

Group Art Unit: 1774

Serial No.: 09/806,030

Examiner: Betelhem Shewareged

Filed: March 26, 2001

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 3374

For. RECORDING SHEET AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(c)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 9, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

Documents AF through AH were cited in a German Office Action dated November 20, 2003. A copy of the Office Action and English translation thereof is also enclosed.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after issuance of a first official action on the merits and expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage for the above-captioned application, but prior to issuance of either a final official action or a Notice of Allowance. A check is attached hereto which covers the \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p).

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37

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Serial No.: 09/806,030

CFR 1.104(a) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS, HANSON & BROOKS, LLP

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO1449, Office Action w/translation, 3 References; Check for \$180

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INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE
CITATION
PTO-1449

Atty. Docket No. 010148	Serial No. 09/806,030
Applicant(s): Yuji Iguchi et al	
Filing Date: March 26, 2001	Group Art Unit: 1774

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Sub class	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA					
_____	AB					
_____	AC					
_____	AD					
_____	AE					

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____	AF 695 01 864 T2	11/26/98	DE	see Office Action
_____	AG 100 31 346 A1	1/11/01	DE	see Office Action
_____	AH 07-166465 A	6/27/95	JP	yes, computer translation
_____	AI			
_____	AJ			

OTHER DOCUMENTS

_____	AK	German Office Action with Translation dated 11/20/03
_____	AL	

Examiner Date Considered